(b) what achievement has so far been made in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) The wind energy programme is being implemented by Madhya Pradesh Urja Vikas Nigam. Activities undertaken in Madhya Pradesh under the wind energy programme comprise survey projects for wind resource assessment and demonstration projects for wind power generation, battery charging and water pumping applications. Thirty wind mapping stations and five wind monitoring stations have been established for collection of wind data under the wind survey projects.

A 500 KW wind farm project was established at Kheda in Dhar District in February, 1990 and over 11 lakh units of electricity have so far been fed to the State gird from this project. In addition, a 90 KW wind electric generator at Kheda and a 50 KW wind electric generator at Kukru have been installed. 164 shallow well and 3 deep well water pumping windmills and 4 wind battery chargers have also been insttalled in the State at different locations.

Delay in Clearance of Power Projects

1779. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to refer to the answer to the Unstarred Question 918 given in the Rajya Sabha on 3rd March, 1992 and state:

(a) what are the cost overruns as a result of delay in the execution of the projects pending for clearance with the Ministry of Environment and Forests;

(b) what is the shortage of power likely to be experienced during the Eighth Plan period; and

(c) what measures have been taken to accelerate completion of these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Conference of Power Ministers

1780. SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of Power Ministers was held in New Delhi on the 4th April, 1992; and

(b) if so, what were the main observations and suggestions made and decisions taken at the Conference ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Conference was organised in the context of the commencement of the 8th Plan. It addressed itself to the problems being faced in the power sector, and emphasized the need for improving the management and performance of State Electricity Boards (SEBs) & the power Sector as a whole. The Conference expressed concern with the problems relating to coal supply and transportation, environment & forest clearances and the need for increasing the share of hydro power.

The conference adopted four resolutions namely:

1. the need for SEBs to function on sound commercial principles and earn a statutory minimum return of 3% per annum as prescribed in the Electricity Supply Act, 1948.

2. the need to fix a minimum national agricultural tariff @ 50 paise per KWH for the present.

3. the need to immediately constitute the National and Regional Tariff Boards.